

Minutes January/26/2021

Sierra Freepackers Zoom meeting

Meeting attended on Zoom by Kelli Land, Sharon Seslowe, Gloria Garland, Denise and Robbie Robinson, Patricia Vallentyne, Laurie Wagner,

Attending at Patricia's house are Karoline Waggle and her mom Joan, Mary Schmidt, Teri Cook

Meeting was called to order by President Patricia Vallentyne at 6:35 pm

Patricia introduced herself and gave a short Bio about herself. Her comments were on how she values the group's membership, work ethics, working together and looking forward to accomplish we make together.

Minutes: Minutes were emailed ,

Patricia will check to be sure she has everyone's emails correct in her unit email list.

Motion to accept the minutes as presented made by Karoline Waggle, Laurie Wagner Second the motion. Patricia called for a vote for approval of the minutes as accepted. Motion Passed.

Treasurer report given by Laurie Wagner

Income from membership dues

Robbie will submit bill for Go Daddy for \$239.88 by email and snail mail to Laurie to pay.

Motion moved to pay for Go Daddy account by Gloria Garland.

Motion Second by Mary Odell

Patricia called for a vote for the motion. Motion passed to pay for Go Daddy account.

Education report: Denise Robinson Howes. Not much to talk about this month.

Public Lands: Patricia reports Sierra National Forest website that all campsites are closed until further notice.

BCHC notice on funds for the Great America outdoor act for 2021-2022 have allocated Patricia asked for ideas to work with partnering groups for the 2023 funds. Patricia will talk to Cori Hyath and find out more information.

Forest service Bass lake Supervisor retired. The position will be filled by interim supervisors. There are also 4 other positions needing to be filled from retirement, moved on or moved out of area. They are low on personnel at the time. There is a guarantee that all positions that are open will be filled, there will be no job sharing.

Patricia asked for volunteer to fill the position of Public lands. She will continue to report on the position and look for a volunteer to fill the position.

We have new members from our January Unit ride.
Joe and Cathy Orth. Laurie suggested everyone have a stack of membership forms in their trailers to sign up new members when we are out.

Unfinished Business:

Mary reported our volunteer hours equaled to approximately \$152,000 in value.

Patricia donated an 18in Huskavarna chainsaw, it is serviced and ready to go. Laurie asked for a donation form to be filled out for the donation

Sheri Mount family had a graveside service. A memorial will be plan at a later date.

Special recognition and appreciation for Sharon Seslowe was presented for her service and term as unit secretary. Kelli Land shared and presented via Zoom a hand carved leather journal for Sharon. Kelli will send via snail mail to Sharon.

Patricia handed out or shared Forest service awards to members, our unit we received a 2019 a Gold award

New Business

Rendezvous has been postponed to October 2021 due to continued concerns with COVID and restrictions on gatherings.

Info from BCHC board, they are looking for feedback from units on an award similar to the Education award recommending a unit member the topic of public lands area. Patricia will add it to the February agenda as an item to discuss and vote on. The BCHC board is looking to see if units are interested in having this as an award / recognition for members.

Patricia made a motion to support a public land award
Mary second the motion
Patricia's called for a vote,
Motion passed.

Patricia will email inform for BCHC state board meeting items that are needed to vote on by the units.

Is there any interest in Chain saw training? Email will be sent to membership for classes. Training set up for Arroyo Grande and Red Bluff. If there is interest Patricia will send information. Patricia will also research who has certifications in chain saw, saw buck and first aide and when each individual's renewal dates are.

It was determined sawyer certification is for 3 years, First Aide is 2 year certification. Sharon suggested seeing who is on the list and encouraging them to get recertified. Denise asked if Cori can do first aide course. Patricia suggested online CPR classes as a way to get certification as well.

Laurie suggested when we go out on projects or rides as a unit to check on who has certifications CPR and chainsaw and check for their certification cards.

Calendar dates for planning and insurance.

Patricia is looking for projects to work on, suggestions, and ideas send an email. Insurance wants to know what we want to do but does not need specific dates. Items like parades, classes, work projects. We can plan projects or events as monthly place holders and give dates when we are sure when the event is going to happen. We have to the end of February to plan and set up the calendar events.

At least give minimum number or dates with subject to change.

Mary suggested wish list of events we want to do and plan according to if we can do the event based on restrictions.

Patricia will collect emails on ideas and send out a list to the unit on what has been suggested.

Ideas suggested at meeting

New tie rail at snow play,

Raymond parade

Poker ride

Coarsegold rodeo

Hensley lake tie rail needs repair.

A.H.R.P trails.

Summer projects clover meadow is closed at least 2 years. Consider Kelty Meadow improvements and repair instead.

Patricia sent paperwork and comments on OHV Webinar.

Debbie McDougal may need our help on a project at Courtright Reservoir John Wagner has more information on this discussion

Denise Clover Meadow sign needs repair and replaced.

Couple projects Bass Lake trails many trees down. Yosemite South Gate Trail Cooperative have removed already 50 or so trees on the Goat Mt. trail. There is a lot more to do.

BCHC has 7 objectives goals want units to meet.

- 1) Work with other groups on trail maintenance. Patricia is reaching out to other groups in the area like bike clubs and hiking clubs, youth groups.

Rd 419 needs trash picked up at least a pick up load. Need to wait until storms have passed and snow melted. Sharon volunteered to help out. Maybe in March

- 2) Involve more youth. Growing interest in kids for LNT. Wilderness riders can reach to doing presentations , visitor center, class's and displays.

Suggestion to ask Joyce Granger when would like to help with her kids especially projects that do not involve horses on site.

Laurie asked did unit renew forest service contract for this year. The answer was yes filled out and with Cori October 2020.

Tentative dates for work at Bass lake in February Patricia will email unit members and get commitment for dates on a week day and weekend. Mary commented we need to be aware of the boat ramp usage on weekends. Dates suggested a weekday and a weekend. Wednesday Feb 10 and Saturday February 13 are tentative dates to work on trees on lower trails in Bass Lake

Sharon asked about vest and embroidery for wilderness riders. Laurie reports they are being working on and to be delivered in near future along with additional unit shirts.

Gloria brought up discussion on reaching to Yosemite South Gate Trail Cooperative about bell boxes and bike bells for Bass lake trails.

Gloria asked how many hours of work and how many trees have been managed over the Last 5 years. These numbers will help justify the work done by the unit volunteer hours so that she can talk to the people about projects. Mary will research this and give an answer if possible by next meeting.

Karoline asked about trails in A.H.R.P, many closed to horse use, several trails for the horses are closed and/ or not usable. Gloria asked if we can put it on the agenda next month to talk about the problems that need to be address and what is happening with trails use there.

Patricia asked to close the meeting, Karoline motioned to adjourn the meeting , Denise second motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:46 pm.

Next meeting is February 16th